THE

Theatrical Observer;

AND

Daily Bills of the Play.

"Nothing extenuate nor set down aught in malice."

No. 838 *Friday, Aug.* 6, 1824. *Price* 1*d.*

English Opera-House.

THE DEVIL'S OWN DRAMA! for by such a title must we call *Der Freischutz*, drew another crowded audience last night. Thirteen full houses has this extraordinary piece attracted, and in the *dog-days* too—"*Every dog has his day.*" If we apply the adage to the Managers of the English Opera-House, we must say they are '*lucky dogs*' —speaking of dogs—the *bones* do not go.

Der Freischutz was followed by a new Musical Entertainment, produced for the first time, under the title of the *Reign of Twelve Hours.* This piece met a favorable reception, and was admirably acted, particularly by Mr. BARTLEY and Miss KELLY. We will not say that it possesses a powerful interest, or a great abundance of humor, but it is light, and passes on pleasantly to a rather too obvious a conclusion.—The following is a description of the story;—

The *Caliph* has been induced, by the representations of bad advisers, to banish a virtuous vizier, who took with him a daughter, the lovely and witty *Nourma.* In time the Caliph discovered his error, but not before the death of the banished Vizier, whose daughter, however, he invited to his court, and lavished on her such attentions as excited the jealousy of his son, *Prince Zeanger*, who, without having seen *Nourma*, conceived such a rooted hatred of her, as caused the *Caliph* to imprison him to secure the safety of the young favorite. *Nourma*, however, entertains a generous affection for the Prince, and has charmed him, incog, by her musical talents whilst confined in his dungeon. A Princess *Zoraide*, at this period, has been proposed as a match for *Zeanger*, which the Caliph desires as a bond of peace between him and a neighbouring state, but the unknown veiled musician has interested his feelings too much to allow him to assent to his father's wishes—the consequence is, the Prince is returned to more vigorous imprisonment. *Nourma*, determined to gain the affections of the Prince, and reconcile the father and son, induces the *Caliph*, as if it were for a joke, to invest her with the sovereign power for the space of twelve hours. In the capacity of Queen she plays with the royal feeling of the abdicated Monarch: and having exchanged characters with the Princess for a trial of her personal power over the Prince, she has him set at liberty—wins his heart as *Zoraide*—avows herself—and delights *Zeanger* with proving that it is in woman's

power to conquer by her charms, the heart, and also to destroy the prejudices of man. She is united to *Zeanger*, and the *Caliph* and his son embrace, thus happily concluding *A Reign of Twelve Hours.* The Music by Mr. HERBERT, if not very original, was pleasing.—Mr. PEARMAN had an encore.—The house was crowded at an early hour.

Hay-market Theatre.

AFTER *Sylvester Daggerwood, The Marriage of Figaro* was performed. Miss PATON represented *Susanna.* In the first act it will be remembered that *Susanna* runs after the *Page* to take from him the ribbon he has snatched. In doing this Miss PATON's foot was unfortunately caught in her dress, and she fell headlong with great violence on the stage. She appeared unable to rise, and Mr. HUCKEL and Mrs. CHATTERLEY flew to her assistance, and she was carried off. After some time had elapsed, Mr. VINING appeared, and stated that Miss PATON, although not seriously injured, was greatly agitated; but she would soon return to go on with her part. She, accordingly, came on again in about half an hour evidently considerably disturbed by the accident. Her fine voice, however, nothing of this kind could overcome, and she sang with fine effect, and obtained the greatest applause.

On Monday, (1st time) *The Alcade; or, The Secrets of Office.*

On Sunday last Mr. Price, the American manager, accompanied by Miss L. Kelly, and the other performers whom he had engaged, embarked at Liverpool on board the packet-ship Pacific, and sailed for New York.—*British Press.*

Mr. Kean appeared at Dublin on Monday night, for the first time this season, in his favourite character of *Richard the Third.* On his entrance he was greeted with long, loud, and evidently very hearty applause. This he acknowledged with mute, yet eloquent gratitude. In the scene with *Lady Anne*, a rather singular circumstance occurred in that particular part where *Richard* exclaims, "Oh! divine perfection of a woman:"—A lady in the pit, convinced, no doubt, that there was nothing divine or perfect in woman at all (which, by-the-bye, we take leave to deny), ejaculated her surprise in so very audible a tone as to be heard throughout the house. This caused general laughter, in which the lady joined, and momentarily stopped the performance—but attention was soon restored by the inimitable exhibition of that encroaching humility by which *Richard* works himself, not only into the good graces of *Lady Anne,* but also into personal exaltation.—*Dublin Paper.*

☞ IT is respectfully suggested to our Friends to be careful, in going to the Theatre, not to be imposed on by an imitation of this Paper

Printed & Published by E. THOMAS, Denmark-court, Exeter-'change, Strand.
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Theatre Royal, Hay-Market.

This Evening, a Comic Sketch, in 1 Act, call'd

Lover's Quarrels.

Sancho, Mr W. WEST,
Carlos, Mr JOHNSON, Lopez, Mr EBSWORTH.
Jacintha, Mrs GIBBS,
Leonora, *(first time)* Mrs W. CLIFFORD,

After which, the favorite Operatic Comedy, called

Sweethearts & Wives.

The Music composed and selected by
Messrs. Whitaker, Nathan, T. Cooke, and Perry.

Admiral Franklyn, Mr WILLIAMS,
Billy Lackaday, Mr LISTON,
Sandford, Mr MELROSE, Curtis, Mr LEE,
Charles, Mr VINING,
Eugenia, Mrs CHATTERLEY,
(Being Her first Appearance in that Character.)
Mrs Bell, Mrs C JONES, Susan, Mrs GARRICK,
Laura, Miss LOVE.

To conclude with the Farce of

Two Strings to your Bow.

Lazarillo, Mr LISTON,
Octavio, Mr JOHNSON, Don Sancho, Mr LEE,
Ferdinand, Mr VINING,
Don Pedro, Mr. YOUNGER,
Borachio, Mr WILLIAMS,
Donna Clara, Madame VESTRIS,
who will introduce "*Reason and Love*,"—BRAHAM.
Leonora, Mrs GARRICK.

To-morrow, Twelve Precisely, with Love in a Village, and Killing no Murder.

Theatre Royal English Opera-House.

This Evening, (14th. time) a Grand Musical Performance, entitled

Der Freischutz;

Or, the SEVENTH BULLET!

Kilian, Mr TAYLEURE, Ottocar, Mr BAKER,
Kuno, Mr BARTLEY, Rodolph, (a Huntsman) Mr BRAHAM,
Casper, (a Ditto) Mr BENNETT, Rollo, (a Ditto) Mr H. PHILLIPS,
Huntsmen, Mess. Henry, J. Bland, J. Cooper,
Zamiel, (the Black Yager, or Spirit of the Forest) Mr T. P. COOKE,
Agnes, (Kuno's Daughter) Miss NOEL,
Ann, Miss POVEY, Witch of the Wolf's Glen, Mrs BRYAN,

Act 1—Scene 1.—A Sequestered Part of the Forest. 2.---The Outskirts of the Forest & Village Inn.

Act 2.---Scene 1.—An Anti-Room in the Forest House.

Scene 2,—THE WOLF's GLEN BY MOONLIGHT.

Grand and Impressive Music preparatory to THE INCANTATION.

THE CASTING OF THE BALLS.---At No. 1. (repeated by the echoes) ha Moon is eclipsed, Night-Birds and Apparitions of various Monsters appear. At No. 2, The Witch of the Glen and various Reptiles appear.---At No. 3, A Storm and Hurricane break down Trees and scatter the Fire—monstrous Forms move through the Glen, and the Torrent turns to Blood!---At No. 4, The Rattle of Wheels and tramp of Horses are heard, and two wheels of fire roll through the Glen---At No. 5, Neighing and Barking are heard—Amid discordant and eccentric Music, supposed to accompany the Wild Chace in Air, the misty forms of a skeleton Stag, skeleton Horsemen and Hounds, pass over the magic circle in the clouds, to a Hunting Chorus of Spirits—At No. 6, Tremendous Storm of Thunder, Lightning, and Hail—Meteors dart through the Air and dance on the Hills---The Torrent foams and roars---The Rocks are riven, and fresh Apparitions appear; and all the horrors of the preceding scenes are accumulated, in order to drive the FREISCHUTZ from the magic circle.---At No. 7, A Tree is rent asunder---ZAMIEL appears, surrounded by Fire, and the Scene closes as the clock strikes ONE!

Act 3---Scene 1.—The Forest. 2---A Chamber in the Forest House. 3,—A Romantic Spot in which the Trial Shot takes place.

After which, (2nd time) a New Musical Entertainment, called,

The Reign of Twelve Hours.

The whole of the Music composed by Mr. G. B. HERBERT.

The Caliph, Mr BARTLEY,
Zèangir, (his Son) Mr PEARMAN, Chekour, Mr W. CHAPMAN,
Lords and Ladies of the Caliph's Court, Officers, Guards, Dancers,
Messrs. Bowman, Buxton, Cahill, Deering, Gallagher, Henry,
Lodge, Povey, Robinson, Sanders, Shaw, Tett, Vaughan, Willis.
Mesdms. W. Bennett, Griffiths, Jerrold, Lodge, M. Nicol, Southwell,
Reid, Romer, Vials, Vidall, Vine, Wells.

Nourma, (Daughter of a late Vizier) Miss KELLY,
Princess Zoraide, (daughter of a neighbouring King) Miss HENRY.

To-morrow, Der Freischutz, &c.